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ABSTRACT

This inventory was undertaken to help college students preparing to teach, as well as other concerned persons, to obtain information on the interests of pre-adolescents. It was also designed to compare the interests of pre-adolescents attending inner city, urban, suburban, and rural schools, in order that lessons and other planned activities would be more appropriate and communication between adults and young people facilitated. The inventory consisted of 83 statements related to the popularly hypothesized interests of pre-adolescents and provided for sorting answers by sex, age, and type of school attended, i.e., rural, urban, suburban, inner city. Its major characteristics were: (1) items were non-threatening psychologically; (2) responses didn't require either reading or writing ability; (3) individuals remained anonymous; (4) testing time was 20 minutes, to individuals or groups; (5) responses were machine scored; and (6) some activities were school-related, and some were not; some were future-oriented. (TA)

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PRE-ADOLESCENT INTEREST INVENTORY: PART I

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Allendale, Michigan 49401
November, 1971

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Cover illustration by Bonnie Schmaltz

Inventory of Pre-Adolescent Interests:* Part I

Dr. Greta DeLong

Grand Valley State College

In some respects, pre-adolescents are the most baffling, least understood human beings attending schools. They are believed to be so betwixt and between, so mercurical that most researchers are glad to leave them exclusively the concern of parents, teachers, and other adults who must share the world with them.

Mutually effective sharing requires communication and it is generally agreed that a major key to successful communication with pre-adolescents is to relate to their interests. Many boys and girls between the ages of nine and thirteen lose interest in school, begin delinquent behavior and experiment with liquor, cigarettes and drugs. Knowledge of current interests and goals of these pupils will make it possible to more closely relate lessons and appropriate activities in such a manner as to modify the extent and nature of behavior problems in the school and in the community.

Professional writers draw many conclusions regarding interests of boys and girls between the ages of nine and thirteen but as Gorlund[1] points out, "relatively few interest inventories have been developed for use at the elementary school level." Jersild in 1949,[2] Thorpe, Meyers and Bonsall[3] in 1954 had inventories available on a national basis, but most instruments are teacher-made for local, temporary use. E.R.I.C. reports only one project in recent years.

* Study financed by grants from Urban Studies Institute and Faculty Research Fund.

Gretchen Stengel,[4] Center for Study of Evaluation, California University, produced an interest inventory composed of "pictorial items in multiple choice form" which was reported on at the Western Psychology Association meeting in April, 1970. In 1957 Remmers and Bauernfeind[5] prepared an inventory "of interests and problems of young people" which was reprinted in 1968. Directions to pupils limits the usefulness of the inventory for interest determining purposes since pupils mark only the degree to which items included are "problems" for them.

The present study was initiated to help college students preparing to teach and other concerned persons to obtain information regarding the interests of pre-adolescents and to compare the interests of those pre-adolescents attending inner city, urban, suburban, and rural schools so that lessons and other activities planned for the boys and girls would be more appropriate and communications between adults and young people facilitated. The project was financed by grants from the Urban Studies Institute and the Faculty Research Fund at Grand Valley State Colleges.

During the spring of 1971, with the cooperation of local schools (list appended) in which they were serving as assistants, the college students read interest statements to which listeners reacted by marking one of three spaces on a machine-scored answer sheet. Simultaneously, for the purposes of comparison, the inventory was read by their teachers to pupils in Trinidad and Ketchikan, Alaska.* In each cooperation school every pupil between the ages of nine and thirteen participated unless he was absent when the statements were read.

* Pupils in Fairbanks, Alaska responded to the inventory in the fall of 1971.

This report presents data from approximately 10,000 pupils in Western Michigan which were processed on college computers. A Chi Square formula was used to determine the significance of differences. Data from approximately 4,500 Alaskan and Trinidadian and additional Michigan pupils will be processed similarily. A report on those data will be made separately.

The Interest Inventory consists of a series of eighty-three statements relating to the popularly hypothesized interests of pre-adolescents. The statements were read to pupils by an adult and their replies marked on a three-space machine-scored answer sheet. Provision was made for sorting answers by sex, age, and school attended. No names or other identifying data were collected except that replies from special education classes were separately coded. With few exceptions, the inventory was administed by Grand Valley State College aides and student teachers as part of their experience in schools. Answer sheets were scored under the direction of Gordon Stegink, Director of the Computer Center, who also arranged to have the data programmed for the computer. Data were evaluated relative to the interests of pre-adolescents by age, sex, and attentance at a rural, suburban, urban, or inner city school.

Major characteristics of the inventory are:

1. Items are psychologically non-threatening.
2. Responses do not require either reading or writing ability, hence interest scores are not confused with the measurement of ability.
3. Individuals remain anonymous.
4. The inventory can be adminisited to either groups or individuals in approximately twenty minutes.
5. Responses are machine scored.

6. The eighty-three items included are representative of interests believed to be common among pre-adolescents.

7. Some items refer to activities that are school-related; other items those that are non school-related. Approximately a fourth of the items are future-oriented (when I grow up.....).

In this report three separate analyses of date will be presented:

I. Those items which were marked "true" by seventy-five precent or more of the pupils as well as those marked "true" by twenty-five percent or fewer.

II. Those items in which there were significant differences (2-tail, Chi Square Test) among the groups differentiated by age, sex, and geographic location.

III. Those items receiving most and least frequent choice which were also significantly different by age, sex, and geographic group.

[1]Gorlund, N. Measurement and Evaluation in Teaching, 2nd edition. MacMillan, New York: 1971. p. 458.

[2]Jersild, A., and Tasch, R. "The Interest Finder", Children Interests and What They Suggest for Education. Bureau of Publication, Teachers College, Columbia University: 1949. p. 91.

[3]Thorpe, T.P., Meyers, C.E., and Bonsall,M.R. What I Like To Do, Inventory of Children's Interests. Science Research Associated, Chicago: 1954.

[4]Stengel, Gretchen. "Children's Interests and Their Assessment". Paper presented at Western Psychological Association, Los Angeles, California: April, 1970.

[5]Remmer, H.H., and Bauernfeind, R.H. STS Junior Inventory. Scholastic Testing Service, Bensenville, Ill.: 1968.

MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENTLY SELECTED ITEMS OF
NINE-YEAR-OLD RURAL BOYS AND GIRLS

Both girls and boys like to learn about people living in other countries, and about pets and animal life. Boys are interested in cars and machinery but most girls are not. On the other hand, more than seventy-five percent of girls want to learn to be better athletes, learn to play musical instruments, listen to popular music and play games of chance like Bingo. Fewer than seventy-five percent of the boys indicated an interest in these activities.

These boys, but not girls, like to complete against peers, watch sport teams compete, play games like chess or checkers, learn to spend money wisely, and watch movies and T.V. shows that are westerns or about crime. Most of the boys would also like to know what kinds of jobs they can do when they grow up.

Other items of interest to seventy-five percent or more of both girls and boys are learning about people in other countries and about animal life. True stories, art work, doing things with their hands, club membership, especially belonging to fun-oriented clubs, or clubs whose purpose is to do good deeds all were popular. Doing things with people their own age, playing card games, outdoor games and games they invent themselves were checked frequently, as were window shoping, watching cartoons and comedies, traveling, and camping, hunting and fishing. Both sexes would like to live

*75% or more checked "True"
**25% or less checked "True"

in the country but think their town is a good place to live.

Fewer than a fourth of either sex were interested in living in a very big city, living as a hermit or working in a business office someday. Neither did they want to work in a factory.

Boys, but not girls, rejected working in a store or becoming professional entertainers. Boys were also disinterested in T.V. shows or movies that were musicals.

Girls differed from boys in lack of interest in machinery and in joining the armed services. Very few of the girls consider school either too easy or too hard and they are not interested in dropping out of school as soon as possible.

On a Chi-Square 2-tail test, irrespective of the number expressing interest, rural 9-year-old boys differed from rural 9-year-old girls on 34 items. Rural boys differed from urban boys on 7 items, and from suburban boys on one item. Rural girls differed from urban girls on 9 items and from suburban girls on 2 items.

MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENTLY SELECTED ITEMS OF
TEN-YEAR-OLD RURAL BOYS AND GIRLS

Rural ten-year-old people have many, varied interests. Three-fourths or more of them checked half of the inventory items.

Boys are interested in learning about the past, about machinery, and about pets and animal life. They like true stories. They like to join their peers in clubs or gangs whose purpose is just to have fun. Almost all like working with their hands. They also favor outdoor games and watching sport teams play. Almost as many are interested in card games and checkers and chess. Cartoons, westerns and crime stories are their favorite movie and T.V. shows. A majority of the girls did not indicate any of these interests.

Girls, on the other hand, are interested in learning about people living in other lands, and about themselves and improving how they look. They like to listen to teachers "tell me things I don't know", and they enjoy art work, inventing things to do, games of chance and belonging to clubs whose purpose is to do good deeds. Like other girls, they enjoy looking in stores even when they don't buy anything.

Girls were not hesitant in checking items that did not interest them. Fewer than twenty-five percent of them indicate interest in learning about machinery, living either in a big city or as a hermit, working in a business office, joining the armed services, working in a factory, or as a scientist. They do not

*75% or more checked "True"
**25% or less checked "True"

care for classical music. School is not too hard and they do not want to quit school as soon as they can.

Boys agree with the girls that they do not want to live either in a big city or as a hermit and they did not want to work in a business office or a factory. Boys are also not interested in becoming professional entertainers and very few care for movies and T.V. shows that are musicals.

Both ten-year-old girls and boys indicate high interest in learning about pets and how to improve their looks and in becoming better athletes. They like true stories and doing things with their hands and with other ten-year-old boys and girls. Card games, outdoor games, funny movies, and T.V. shows, popular music and club membership are also frequently checked as interesting. They like to live in the country and consider their community a good place to live. They would like to do lots of traveling, and camping and hunting and fishing. Concerns are learning to spend money wisely and finding out what kinds of jobs they can have as adults.

On the Chi Square, 2-tail test, irrespective of the number expressing interest, rural 10-year-old boys differed from rural girls on 54 items. Rural boys differed from urban boys on 23 items and from suburban boys on 9 items. Rural 10-year-old girls differed on 14 items from urban girls but not at all from suburban girls of the same age.

MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENTLY SELECTED ITEMS OF
ELEVEN-YEAR-OLD RURAL BOYS AND GIRLS

In comparison with other eleven-year-old children, a majority of rural children have checked few items on the inventory. Of the sixteen items checked by the girls, four were not checked by the boys. Girls, but not the boys, want to learn about themselves, to improve the way they look, do more art work and go window-shopping. Only a majority of the boys, on the other hand, like to compete with peers, watch sport teams, play games like checkers and chess, watch cartoons on T.V. and wish they knew what kind of jobs they could do when they grow up. Most of both girls and boys are interested in pets and animals, becoming better athletes, working with their hands, doing things with peers, playing outdoors. They like to live in the country and think their community is a good place to live. Funny movies and popular music please them and they would like to learn to spend money wisely, to travel a lot and to do much camping, hunting and fishing.

Fewer than twenty-five percent of either sex are interested in being lazy, living in a very big city or living as a hermit.

Neither think school is too hard. They would not care to work in a business office, store, or a factory. Classical music does not interest them.

Most girls are not interested in machinery, learning more about tobacco, joining the armed services, or working as a

*75% or more checked "True"
**25% or more checked "True"

scientist. Few boys are interested in learning to sing, working in a store or watching love stories on T.V.

On a Chi Square, 2-tail test, irrespective of the number expressing interest, rural 11-year-old boys and girls differed from each other on 44 items. These boys differed from 11-year-old urban boys on 17 items, but on only 3 items from suburban boys. Rural girls differed from urban girls on 16 items and from suburban girls on 2 items.

MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENTLY SELECTED ITEMS OF
TWELVE-YEAR-OLD RURAL BOYS AND GIRLS

Most rural boys and girls who are twelve years old are interested in learning about pets and animals, in becoming better althletes, doing art work, working with their hands, and belonging to clubs or gangs whose primary purpose is to have fun. They like to do things with peers such as play cards and outdoor games. They like to live in the country and think their community is a good place to live. Popular music interests them as does spending lots of time in the woods camping, hunting or fishing and doing lots of traveling. Mutual concerns are learning how to spend money wisely and wondering what kinds of jobs they can have in the future.

Additional interests of most of the boys are learning about cars and machinery, competing with peers, watching sport teams, playing games like checkers and chess, and watching television shows and movies that are western or about crime or science fiction. Most girls are more interested than boys in learning about themselves and about people in other countries. They like true stories but also enjoy thinking about things that could not possibly by true. Window-shopping appeals and so do television and movies that are funny or that are cartoons.

Few girls are interested in learning about how machines work, joining the armed services or in becoming scientists or learning

*75% or more checked "True"
**25% or less checked "True"

about the government. On the other hand, few want to quit school as soon as they can.

Few boys have interests in learning to sing, or in working in a business office, or factory, or store or in becoming a professional entertainer. Boys and girls share little interest in being lazy, living in the city, becoming a hermit, in watching musicals, or in listening to classical music.

Irrespective of the number expressing interest, rural 12-year-old boys and girls differed significantly (Chi Square, 2-tail test) from each other on 36 items. Rural boys differed from urban boys on 7 items and from suburban boys on 2 items. Twelve-year-old rural girls differed from urban girls on 7 items and from suburban girls on 5 items.

MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENTLY SELECTED ITEMS OF
THIRTEEN-YEAR-OLD RURAL BOYS AND GIRLS

Interests of most rural 13-year old boys and girls are quite varied. Both are interested in learning more about animal life and how to become better athletes. They would like to do more art work and to do more things with their peers. Card games, outdoor games, and popular music and travel appeal to them. They like to live in the country and think their community is a good place to live.

The girls especially enjoy working with their hands, learning about people in foreign countries, watching funny shows. They also wonder what kinds of jobs they can do when they grow up. Few girls want to join the armed services or become scientists someday.

Boys are interested in learning about machinery, in watching sport teams play, and in belonging to fun-oriented gangs or clubs. Other popular activities are watching crime and western shows and spending time hunting, fishing, and camping. They have very little interest in becoming professional entertainers or in living in very large cities.

Neither many boys nor girls think school is too easy, neither want to work in business offices or factories when they grow up, and they don't want to listen to classical music or live far from other people.

*75% or more checked "True"
**25% or less checked "True"

Irrespective of the numbers expressing interest, on the Chi Square, 2-tail test, rural 13-year-old boys and girls differ from each other on sixteen items, less than half as many items as indicated by rural boys and girls of other ages. Thirteen-year-old rural boys differ from urban boys on 4 items and from suburban boys of the same age on only 1 item. Rural girls differ from urban girls on 2 items and from suburban girls also on only 2 items.

MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENTLY SELECTED ITEMS OF
NINE-YEAR-OLD URBAN BOYS AND GIRLS

These boys and girls have many interests as indicated by the large number of items they approved.

Girls like to listen to teachers and to write stories, to belong to clubs whose purpose is to do good deeds, to play games like Bingo, to go window shopping and to learn to spend money wisely. Most boys do not indicate these interests.

On the other hand, boys, not girls, like to learn about themselves, compete against peers, watch sport teams, play checkers and chess, watch movies and T.V. shows about crime, science-fiction, or westerns, and work on problems no one has ever solved.

More than three-fourths of both sexes expressed interest in learning about foreign people and about pets and animal life. They would like to do more art work and like to do things with their hands and with other boys and girls their age. They like to belong to clubs or gangs. Card games, outdoor games and games they invent themselves also are popular, as are funny T.V. shows, cartoons and popular music. Most would like to live in the country, do lots of traveling and spend time hunting, fishing, and camping. They think they would like to go to college someday and they wish they knew what kinds of jobs they might do when they grow up.

Less than a fourth of either sex are interested in working in a factory someday or in living as a hermit. Girls also are

*75% or more checked "True"
**25% or less checked "True"

not interested in joining the armed forces or in learning about tabacco.

Irrespective of the number expressing interest, urban nine-year-old boys and girls differed (Chi Square, 2-tail test) from each other on 26 items. Urban boys differed from rural boys on 7 items and from suburban boys on 2 items. Girls differed from rural girls on 9 items and from suburban girls on 7 items. Inner city and urban boys differed on 11 items and girls differed on 10 items.

MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENTLY CHECKED ITEMS OF
TEN-YEAR-OLD URBAN BOYS AND GIRLS

Ten-year-old urban girls and boys are very much alike in their interests. The girls checked only 5 items the majority of the boys did not check. Most of the girls, but not the boys, are interested in learning more about themselves, in playing games of chance, in learning more about machinery, being lazy or in joining the armed services.

Boys, but not girls, expressed interest in learning about the past and in learning about machinery. They are the only ten-year-olds included in the survey who wanted to learn more about astronauts and outer space. Other interests include true stories, competing against peers, watching movies and T.V. shows that are cartoons or westerns, crime shows or science-fiction.

Both girls and boys would like to be better athletes, and to do more art work and things with their hands. They like to listen to adults tell them things they don't know and to belong to gangs or clubs, especially those that are fun-oriented. Most like to be with their peers and to play card games or activities they invent themselves, and to listen to popular music and watch comedies. They would like to travel and to spend lots of time in the woods, hunting, fishing and camping. Both girls and boys want to learn to spend money wisely and think they would like to go to college someday.

*75% or more checked "True"
**25% or less checked "True"

Very few girls or boys expressed interest in being a hermit, or working in a factory. Very few boys expressed interest in working in a store, or in T.V. shows or movies that are musicals. They do not favor classical music.

Ten-year-old urban girls and boys differed (Chi Square, 2-tail test) from each other or 34 items irrespective of the number indicating interest in an item. Urban boys differed from rural boys on 23 items, from surburban boys on 2 items and from inner city boys on 11 items. Girls differed from urban girls on 14 items, from suburban girls on 6 items, and from inner city girls on 25 items.

MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENTLY SELECTED ITEMS OF
ELEVEN-YEAR-OLD URBAN BOYS AND GIRLS

Most urban eleven-year-old girls are interested in just three activities that did not also interest most of the boys. These were improving their appearance, window-shopping, and learning about people in other lands. Boys, on the other hand, were interested in items that were not checked by many girls. They like true stories, competing with peers, watching sport teams, inventing games and playing games like checkers and chess, watching cartoons and crime shows on T.V. Items of interest to most girls and boys are learning about themselves, learning about animal life, becoming better athletes and doing things with their hands, belonging to fun-oriented clubs, relating with peers, playing outdoor games, watching funny shows, and listening to popular music, learning to spend money wisely, traveling and camping, hunting or fishing. They both are concerned about the kinds of jobs they can do when they are adults.

Very few urban eleven-year-old boys were interested in T.V. shows or movies that were musicals, in classical music or in working in a store or living as a hermit. Few girls were interested in learning about machinery, in being lazy, joining the armed services, being a hermit, working in a factory or as a scientist. They did not think school was too easy and were not interested in leaving school as soon as they could.

*75% or more checked "True"
**25% or less checked "True"

Urban 11-year-old boys and girls, irrespective of the number expressing interest in an item, differed significantly (Chi Square, 2-tail test) on 41 of the inventory items. The test also revealed that urban boys differed from rural boys on 17 items, from suburban boys on 6 items, and from inner city boys on 17 items. Urban and rural girls differed on 16 items, urban and suburban girls differed on 6 items, and urban and inner city girls differed on 26 items.

MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENTLY SELECTED ITEMS OF
TWELVE-YEAR-OLD URBAN BOYS AND GIRLS

Most urban boys are interested in more activities than are the girls. Just the boys indicate interest in living in the country, learning about machinery, competing with peers or watching sport teams. A majority of boys like to play games like checkers and chess, to watch television shows and movies about crime and science-fiction, and hope to go to college someday.

Most girls, but not boys, indicate interest in learning about people in other countries and about themselves. They like to window-shop and watch funny shows. Interests they share with the boys include learning about animal life and how to become better athletes, doing more art work, working with their hands, being with peers, playing outdoor games, listening to popular music, learning to spend money wisely, traveling and spending lots of time in the woods camping, hunting and fishing. Both sexes would also like to know what kinds of jobs they can have when they become adults.

Very few urban twelve-year-old girls are interested in learning about machinery, or in being lazy. They do not want to join the armed services, or to become researchers, and they are not anxious to quit school as soon as they can.

*75% or more checked "True"
**25% or less checked "True"

Few boys want to live in a very large city nor do they want to become professional entertainers or store employees, and very few of them like movies or television shows that are musicals.

Irrespective of the number expressing interest, there were 34 items on which 12-year-old urban boys and girls differed significantly (Chi Square, 2-tail test). These urban boys differed from rural boys 7 times and from suburban boys 12 times. Urban girls differed from rural girls on 7 items and from suburban girls on 5 items.

MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENTLY SELECTED ITEMS OF
THIRTEEN-YEAR-OLD URBAN BOYS AND GIRLS

Most urban boys express interest in almost twice as many items as do most urban girls. The boys are interested in learning about machinery, in competing with peers, watching sport teams and belonging to fun-oriented clubs or gangs. They like crime shows and westerns and would like to spend lots of time camping, hunting, and fishing. More boys than girls would like to know how to spend money wisely.

Items primarily interesting to girls are learning about people in other countries and working with their hands. Very few girls like to listen to classical music, join the armed services or become scientists.

Boys and girls share interest in learning about pets, how to become better athletes, in doing more art work and in talking with people about things in which the boys and girls are interested. They also like card games, outdoor games, and being with peers, traveling, window-shopping, popular music, cartoons and funny shows. Both sexes would like to find out what kinds of jobs they can do when they grow up. Neither boys nor girls are interested in living far from other people or in doing factory work.

Irrespective of the number indicating interest in an item, 13-year-old urban boys and girls differed (Chi Square, 2-tail test) on just thirteen items. Girls differed from rural girls

*75% or more checked "True"
**25% or less checked "True"

on 2 items, from suburban girls on 6 items, and not at all from inner city girls. Boys differed from rural boys on 4 items, from suburban boys on 5 items and from inner city boys on 4 items.

MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENTLY SELECTED ITEMS OF
NINE-YEAR-OLD SUBURBAN GIRLS AND BOYS

Although both girls and boys share interests in many areas there were 11 interests a majority of them do not share. The girls, but not the boys, expressed interest in helping plan school activities, reading true stories, belonging to clubs whose purpose is to do good deeds, playing games of chance, learning to play a musical instrument, and improving their appearance.

Boys, but not girls, are interested in learning about machinery, competing against peers and watching sport teams. They also like playing checkers and chess, movies and T.V. shows about crime, science-fiction and westerns.

Interests were shared in wanting to learn about people in foreign lands, about pets and animal life, and how to become better athletes. More art work would be welcomed. They like to work with their hand to belong to fun-oriented gangs or clubs. Very few do not want to belong to a club at all. The company of peers, card games, outdoor games, outdoor games and activities they invent themselves, cartoons, and funny T.V. shows are all of interest to most of them. They would like to live in the country but think their town is a good place to live. Both girls and boys would like to learn to spend money wisely, do lots of traveling, and spend lots of time hunting, fishing, and camping. They wonder what kinds of jobs they can do when they are adults and they think they would like to go to college.

*75% or more checked "True"
**25% or more checked "True"

Fewer than twenty-five percent of either sex are interested in living in a very large city, being a hermit or working in a factory when they grow up. Very few girls are interested in being lazy. They do not consider school too hard, they do not want to quit school, and they do not want to work in a business office.

Few boys think school is too easy, they are not interested in working in a store, they do not like classical music or movies or T.V. shows that are musicals. They are not interested in having adults teach them more about sex.

Irrespective of the number indicating interest, nine-year-old suburban girls and boys differed from each other significantly (Chi Square, 2-tail test) on 19 items. Girls differed from rural girls on 2 items and from urban girls on 7 items, and boys differed for rural boys on 1 and from urban boys on 5 items.

MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENTLY SELECTED ITEMS OF
TEN-YEAR-OLD SUBURBAN BOYS AND GIRLS

Most suburban boys indicate interest in six items not checked by most of the girls. Like other ten-year-old boys they are interested in learning about the past, and about machinery and in watching crime shows, cartoons, and sporting events. They enjoy competing with their peers.

Girls, but not boys, like to listen to adults and to write stories even if no one reads them. They enjoy card games, games of chance, and popular music and they are interested in learning what kinds of jobs they can have when they grow up. Otherwise, girls and boys indicate they are interested in many of the same activities. Both checked favorably items indicating interest in learning about foreign people and about how animals live. They would like to become better athletes, do more art work and things with their hands, and they like to listen to adults tell them things they don't know. Club membership, especially in fun-oriented clubs and gangs, comedies, and doing things with their peers, playing outdoor games, and window shopping also interest most of them. They would like to live in the country but think their town is a good place to live. Travel and hunting, fishing and camping are also popular and both sexes would like to learn to spend money wisely.

*75% or more checked "True"
**25% or less checked "True"

Boys and girls are also in agreement that few of them were interested in living in a big city or alone, far from other people. Very few are interested in factory work or in classical music. Girls add to their least-frequently-checked interests, being lazy, studying about machinery, working in a business office, armed services, or as a scientist. They do not think school is too hard and they do not want to quit as soon as they can. Boys do not think school is too easy, they dislike musicals on T.V. and they are not interested in working in a store.

Irrespective of the number expressing interest, on a Chi Square, 2-tail test, 10 year-old suburban girls differed from 10 year-old suburban boys on 34 items. Suburban girls did not differ at all from rural girls, but they did differ 6 times from urban girls. Suburban and rural boys differed on 1 item and suburban and urban boys differed on 5 items.

MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENTLY SELECTED ITEMS OF
ELEVEN-YEAR-OLD SUBURBAN BOYS AND GIRLS

A majority of both boys and girls share interest in thirteen items on the inventory. They are interested in learning about pets, becoming better athletes, doing things with their hands, and joining fun-oriented clubs or gangs. They like to do things with their peers and play outdoor games. They think their town is a good place to live but they would like to live out in the country. Funny shows and popular music please both as does the idea of travel and lots of camping, hunting and fishing. Both are concerned about what kinds of jobs they can do when they grow up.

Only a majority of girls are interested in learning about themselves, improving their looks, doing more art work, playing card games, or window shopping. Boys, but not girls, were interested in competing with peers, watching sport teams, inventing games and things to do, watching crime shows, going to college someday, and hearing adults help them learn about sex.

Very few boys or girls are interested in being lazy, living in a very big city or as a hermit, working in a store, listening to classical music, or watching love stories or musicals in movies or on T.V. Neither consider school too hard.

Girls are not interested in learning about machinery or tobacco, working in a factory or as a scientist, or quiting school as soon as they can.

*75% or more checked "True"
**25% or less checked "True"

On a Chi Square, 2-tail test, irrespective of the number expressing interest, eleven-year-old suburban boys and girls differed on 33 items. Suburban and rural boys differed on 2 items and suburban and urban boys differed on 6 items. Suburban and rural girls differed twice and suburban and urban girls differed 6 times.

MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENTLY SELECTED ITEMS OF
TWELVE-YEAR-OLD SUBURBAN BOYS AND GIRLS

A high percentage of suburban twelve-year-old girls and boys like to learn about pets and animal life. Most would like to do things with their hands, become better athletes and watch sport teams play. They like to do things such as play outdoor games with their peers and they would like to live in the country, although they agree that their town is a good place to live. Just as do many other twelve-year-olds they like popular music, would like to spend lots of time out in the woods camping, hunting and fishing and they would like to do lots of traveling. Both sexes are also interested in the kinds of jobs they may have as adults.

The majority of boys indicate interest in competing with peers, playing card games, watching science fiction on television and in the movies and in learning to spend money wisely. Most girls are interested in window-shopping and in learning about themselves and about people in other countries. They wish they had a chance to do more art work, and to belong to fun-oriented clubs. They think they would like to go to college someday.

There are several areas which interest fewer than twenty-five percent of all the children. Boys do not want to sing better, girls do not want to learn about machinery. Neither

*75% or more checked "True"
**25% or less checked "True"

want to live in a very large city nor to become hermits. Working in a business office, a factory or a store does not appeal to them and fewer girls than boys are interested in dropping out of school as soon as possible.

Irrespective of the number expressing interest, suburban boys and girls, 12-years-old, differed on 24 inventory items on a Chi Square, 2-tail test. Suburban and rural boys differed on just two items while suburban and urban boys differed on 12 items. Suburban girls differed from rural girls on 2 items and from urban girls on 6 items.

MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENTLY SELECTED ITEMS OF
THIRTEEN-YEAR-OLD SUBURBAN BOYS AND GIRLS

Only 8 items are checked as interesting by three-fourths of these girls. Interests checked are learning about animal life, doing things, with peers, window-shopping, playing outdoor games, watching funny movies or T.V. shows, and listening to popular music. They also find their town is a good place to live.

Most boys agree with the girls on these items but add 13 more. They include learning about machinery, becoming better athletes, talking to other people, playing card games, competing with peers, and watching sport teams play. They would like to live in the country but think their town is a good place to live. Crime shows are liked by most boys as are traveling and hunting, fishing and camping. Spending money wisely and finding out what kinds of jobs they can have as adults interest almost all of them.

Very few boys are interested in learning about weather or climate or in working in a store, and as, with the girls, few are interested in either living in a large city or as hermits, in factory work or in listening to classical music.

Least popular items with the girls include learning about outer space, working in a business office or as a scientist or in joining the armed service someday. They are not interested in musical shows or in learning more from adults about liquor.

*75% or more checked "True"
**25% or less checked "True"

On a Chi Square, 2-tail test, irrespective of the number expressing interest, 13-year-old suburban boys and girls differed on just nine of the eighty-three items. The boys differed from rural boys on 1 item and from urban boys on 5 items. Suburban girls differed from rural girls on 2 items and from urban girls on 6 items.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF INNER-CITY INTERESTS

Seventy-five percent of inner-city girls at one or more age levels expressed favorable interest in 34 of the inventory items. There were 10 items in which 25 percent or fewer were favorably interested.

Inner-city and urban girls differed significantly (Chi Square, 2-tail test) from each other on 46 items and the inner-city girls differed from the combined rural and suburban group of girls on 51 items.

Inner-city girls differed most frequently from other girls at 11 years of age. Differences occured with urban girls on 26 items and with the combined rural-suburban group on 31 items.

When the only items considered are those receiving most (75 percent or more) and least (25 percent or less) frequent choice which were also significantly different, inner-city girls differed from urban girls on 20 items.

At some age level, 75 percent or more of inner-city boys indicated interest in 44 inventory items while only 4 items received 25 percent or fewer favorable responses.

Inner-city boys differed from urban boys on 29 items and from the combined rural-suburban group of boys on 39 items.

As was true for the girls, inner-city and urban boys differed most frequently at age 11 (17 items) and so did inner-city and the combined group or rural and suburban 11 year old boys (26 items).

When the only items considered are those receiving most (75 percent or more) and least (25 percent or less) frequent choice which are also significantly different, inner-city boys differ from urban boys on 13 items.

Boys and girls at one or more ages agreed on 31 items to which 75 percent or more of them gave positive responses and on 2 items which received 25 percent or fewer "true" votes from either sex. They disagreed on 11 items.

OBSERVATIONS ON INTERESTS OF INNER-CITY PRE-ADOLESCENTS

Planning an appropriate curriculum based on interests for inner-city boys and girls should be relatively easy. These boys and girls indicate they have even more interests than other geographic groups included in the inventory. Most of them find school interesting and neither too hard nor too easy. Their interests are very varied but they favor activities which bring them into contact with other people, including their teachers and other adults, and they like music better than most other pre-adolescents.

The boys indicated that they have approximately 30% more interests than the girls do. Many interests are shared with the girls but, as expected, they differ in certain areas such as learning about machinery, watching sport events and crime and western T.V. shows.

Younger girls and boys in all geographic areas including the inner-city checked more interests than did the older ones. For example, both inner-city 9 year old girls and boys checked 10 fewer items than did the 13 year old boys and girls. It is interesting to speculate as to reasons for this decline with age. A search for clues will be made in a more detailed analysis of the data.

The indicated interests of inner-city pre-adolescents differ from other groups on individual inventory items but they have many common interests.

GENERAL SUMMARY

Two items were popular with both boys and girls of all ages attending school in urban, rural, suburban or inner city areas. They "like to do things with other people who are about my age" and they "like to play outdoor games." Fewer than 25% of all groups would "like to be a hermit--live alone far from other people".

Seventy-five percent or more of inner city boys and girls of all ages agree on five items. They like to learn about people living in other countries and they like "to do things with other people who are about my age". Cartoons on T.V., movies and T.V. shows that are funny and outdoor games also receive their approval. They agree that fewer than twenty-five percent of them would "like to be a hermit--live alone far from other people."

There were no significant differences (Chi Square, 2-tail test) between any geographic area by sex or age on eight items.

"Learning about problems in the world today" was of intermediate interest to all.

At least seventy-five percent of nine- and ten-year-old girls "like to write stories even if no one reads them" but there was not a significant difference between the number expressing this interest and the number in all other groups expressing similar interest. Likewise, the interest of 75% or more inner city girls in belonging to clubs whose purpose is educational was not significantly different from the smaller numbers expressing interest in all other groups.

Interest in inventing games and things to do was more frequently checked by younger than other girls and boys in all groups but there was no significant differences between ages or sexes.

Regardless of where they went to school, all ages of boys and girls vary frequently express interest in playing outdoor games, and with exceptions where somewhat fewer than seventy-five percent checked the items, they also enjoy watching comedies on T.V. and in movies, and in listening to popular music.

The greatest number of significant differences among geographic groups occured between the inner city and the combined rural-suburban group where girls differed on 51 items and boys differed on 39 items. Inner city and urban girls differed on 46 items and boys differed on 29 items.

Rural and urban boys and girls differed on 46 items, urban and suburban on 41 items, and rural and suburban girls and boys on 27.

Two items where significant differences occured were especially interesting. On item 42, "I would like to live in a very big city like New York, or Detroit or Chicago" there were 33 differences out of a possible 40. Fewer than 25% of the rural boys and girls indicated they would like to live in a big city but with the exception of 12-year-old urban boys who also rejected city life the number of urban and inner city boys and girls checking the item positively was neither significantly high nor low.

Item 45, "I think my town is a good place to live" registered 24 significant differences. Seventy-five percent or more of rural boys and girls chose to mark the item favorably but no groups of urban or inner city pupils recorded so many favorable responses.

Items Chosen by 75% or More

Recorded by Age, Sex, and Geographic Area

tem		Rural		Urban	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
1.	sch intst				
2.	arith				
3.	history		10		10
4.	foreign	9,10,12,13	9	9,10,11,12,13	9
5.	world				
6.	cars		9,10,12,13		9,10,12,13
7.	pets	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13
8.	health				
9.	climate				
0.	space				9,10
1.	athletics	9,10,11,12,13	10,11,12,13	10,11,12,13	10,11,12,13
2.	myself	10,11,12		10,11,12	9,11
3.	plan wk				
4.	listening	9,10		9,10	10
5.	art	9,10,11,12,13	9,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,12,13
6.	singing				
7.	acting				
8.	writing			9	
9.	reading				
0.	true story	9,10,12	9,10	9	9,10,11
1.	talking				13
2.	hand work	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12

Items Chosen by 75% or More

Recorded by Age, Sex, and Geographic Area

tem		Rural		Urban	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
3.	lazy				
4.	sch hard				
5.	sch easy				
6.	compete		9,10,11,12		9,10,11,12,13
7.	sports		9,10,11,12,13		9,10,11,12,13
8.	imagine	12			
9.	fun clubs	9,12	9,10,12,13	9,10,11	9,10,11,13
0.	educ club				
1.	serve club	9,10	9	9,10	
2.	no club				
3.	peers	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13
4.	adults				
5.	strangers				
6.	card games	9,10,12,13	9,10,12,13	9,10,11,13	9,10,12,13
7.	outdr games	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13
8.	Bingo	9,10		9,10	
9.	chess		9,10,11,12		9,10,11,12
0.	invent	9,10	9	9,10	9,10,11
1.	wind shop	9,10,11,12,13	9	9,10,11,12,13	10,13
2.	city life				
3.	count life	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	10	9,10,11,12,13
4.	hermit		9		

Items Chosen by 75% or More

Recorded by Age, Sex, and Geographic Area

tem		Rural		Urban	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
5.	hometown	9,10,11,12,13	10,11,12,13		
6.	office wk				
7.	service wk				
8.	store wk				
9.	armed ser				
0.	entertain				
1.	factory wk				
2.	scientist				
3.	outdr wk				
4.	much TV				
5.	comedies	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,13
6.	romances				
7.	crime		9,10,12,13		9,10,11,12,13
8.	musicals				
9.	sci fict		12		9,10,12
0.	cartoons	9,12	9,10,11	9,13	9,10,11,13
1.	westerns		9,10,12,13		9,13
2.	animals				
3.	medical				
4.	educ TV				
5.	play music	9		9	
6.	class mus				

Items Chosen by 75% or More

Recorded by Age, Sex, and Geographic Area

Item		Rural		Urban	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
67.	pop music	9,10,11,12,13	10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13
68.	budget	10,11,12	9,10,11,12	9,10,11,12	10,11,12,13
69.	looks	10,11		11	
70.	drugs				
71.	sex				
72.	liquor				
73.	tobacco				
74.	gov't				
75.	notables				
76.	woods	9,10,11,12	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12	9,10,11,12,13
77.	travel	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13
78.	quit sch				
79.	prob solv				9
80.	vocation	10,12,13	9,10,11,12	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13
81.	teaching				
82.	college			9,10,11	9,10,11,12
83.	inventory				

Items Chosen by 75% or More

Recorded by Age, Sex, and Geographic Area

Item		Suburban		Inner City	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
1.	sch intst				
2.	arith				13
3.	history		10	12	10
4.	foreign	9,10,12	9,10	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,1
5.	world				
6.	cars		9,10,12,13		9,10,11,12,1
7.	pets	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12	9,10,11,12,1
8.	health			9,10,11,12,13	13
9.	climate				
10.	space				
11.	athletics	9,10,11,12	10,11,12,13	11,12	9,10,11,12,1
12.	myself	10,11,12		9,10,11,12	9,10,11,13
13.	plan work	9		9,12	
14.	listening	9,10		9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11
15.	art	9,10,11,12	9,10	9,10,11,12	9,10,11,12,1
16.	singing				
17.	acting				
18.	writing	10			
19.	reading				
20.	true story	9		9,10,11,12,13	10,11,12
21.	talking		13	9,10	13
22.	hand work	9,10,11,12	9,10,11,12	9,10,11	9,11,12,13

Items Chosen by 75% or More

Recorded by Age, Sex, and Geographic Area

Item		Suburban		Inner City	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
23.	lazy				
24.	sch hard				
25.	sch easy				
26.	compete		9,10,11,12,13		9,10,11,12,13
27.	sports	12	9,10,11,12,13		9,10,11,12,13
28.	imagine				
29.	fun clubs	9,10,11,12	9,10,11	10,11	9,10,11
30.	educ clubs				
31.	serve club	9		9,10,12	10,11,12
32.	no club				
33.	peers	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13
34.	adults				
35.	strangers				
36.	card games	9,10,11	9,12,13	11,12,13	11,12
37.	outdr games	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13
38.	Bingo	9,10		9,10,11,12	9,10,11,12
39.	chess		9	11	10,11,12
40.	invent	9	9,11	9,10,12	9,10,11,12
41.	wind shop	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,13	9,10,13	10
42.	city life				
43.	count life	9,10,11,12	9,10,11,12,13		10
44.	hermit				

Items Chosen by 75% or More

Recorded by Age, Sex, and Geographic Area

Item		Suburban		Inner City	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
45.	hometown	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13		
46.	office wk				
47.	service wk				
48.	store wk				
49.	armed ser				
50.	entertain				
51.	factory wk				
52.	scientist				
53.	outdr wk				
54.	much TV			9,10	9
55.	comedies	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13
56.	romances				
57.	crime		9,10,11,13		9,10,11,12
58.	musicals				
59.	sci fict		12		9,12,13
60.	cartoons	9,11	9,10	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13
61.	western		9		9,10,11,12,13
62.	animals				
63.	medical				
64.	educ TV				
65.	play music	9		9	9,10
66.	class mus				

Items Chosen by 75% or More

Recorded by Age, Sex, and Geographic Area

Item		Suburban		Inner City	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
67.	pop music	9,10,11,12,13	9,11,12,13	10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13
68.	budget	9,10	9,10,12,13	12	10,11,12,13
69.	looks	9,11		10,13	9
70.	drugs				
71.	sex		11		9
72.	liquor				
73.	tobacco				
74.	gov't				
75.	notables			10,12	
76.	woods	9,10,11,12	9,10,11,12,13	9,11,12	9,10,11,12,13
77.	travel	9,10,11,12	9,10,11,12,13	10,11,12,13	9,11,12,13
78.	quit sch				
79.	prob solv				9,11
80.	vocation	9,10,11,12	9,12,13	9,10,11,12	11,13
81.	teaching			10,11	10
82.	college	9,12	9,11	9,10,11,12	9,10,11,12
83.	inventory				9,10

Items Chosen by 25% or Fewer

Recorded by Age, Sex, and Geographic Area

Item		Rural		Urban	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
1.	sch intst				
2.	arith				
3.	history				
4.	foreign				
5.	world				
6.	cars	9,10,11,12		10,11,12	
7.	pets				
8.	health				
9.	climate				
10.	space			13	
11.	athletics				
12.	myself				
13.	plan work				
14.	listening				
15.	art				
16.	singing		11,12,13		
17.	acting				
18.	writing				
19.	reading				
20.	true story				
21.	talking				
22.	hand work				

Items Chosen by 25% or Fewer

Recorded by Age, Sex, and Geographic Area

Item		Rural		Urban	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
23.	lazy	9,10,11,12	11,12	10,11,12	
24.	sch hard	9,10,11,12		11,12	
25.	sch easy	11,12,13	11,12,13		
26.	compete				
27.	sports				
28.	imagine				
29.	fun clubs				
30.	educ clubs				
31.	serve club				
32.	no club	9,10,11,12	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13
33.	peers				
34.	adults				
35.	strangers				
36.	card games				
37.	outdr game				
38.	Bingo				
39.	chess				
40.	invent				
41.	wind shop				
42.	city life	9,10,11,12	9,10,11,12,13		12
43.	count life				
44.	hermit	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13

Items Chosen by 25% or Fewer

Recorded by Age, Sex, and Geographic Area

Item		Rural		Urban	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
45.	hometown				
46.	office wk	9,10,11,13	9,10,11,12,13		10
47.	service wk				
48.	store wk		9,10,11,12,13		10,11,12
49.	armed ser	9,10,11,12,13		9,10,11,12,13	
50.	entertain		9,11,12,13		
51.	factory wk	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,12,13
52.	scientist	10,11,12,13		10,11,12,13	
53.	outdr wk				
54.	much TV				
55.	comedies				
56.	romances		10,11,12		
57.	crime				
58.	musicals	12	9,10,11,12		10,11,12
59.	sci fict				
60.	cartoons				
61.	westerns				
62.	animals				
63.	medical				
64.	educ TV				
65.	play music				
66.	class mus	10,11,12,13	10,11,12,13	12,13	10,11,12

Items Chosen by 25% or Fewer

Recorded by Age, Sex, and Geographic Area

Item		Rural		Urban	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
67.	pop music				
68.	budget				
69.	looks				
70.	drugs				
71.	sex				
72.	liquor				
73.	tobacco	11,13		9,12	
74.	gov't	12			
75.	notables				
76.	woods				
77.	travel				
78.	quit sch	9,10,11,12		11,12	
79.	prob solv				
80.	vocation				
81.	teaching				
82.	college				
83.	inventory				

Items Chosen by 25% or Fewer

Recorded by Age, Sex, and Geographic Area

Item		Suburban		Inner City	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
1.	sch intst				
2.	arith				
3.	history				
4.	foreign				
5.	world				
6.	cars	10,11,12			
7.	pets				
8.	health				
9.	climate		13		
10.	space	13		11,13	
11.	athletics				
12.	myself				
13.	plan work				
14.	listening				
15.	art				
16.	singing		11,12		
17.	acting				
18.	writing				
19.	reading				
20.	true story				
21.	talking				
22.	hand work				

Items Chosen by 25% or Fewer

Recorded by Age, Sex, and Geographic Area

Item		Suburban		Inner City	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
23.	lazy	9,10,11,12	11,12,13	12	
24.	sch hard	9,10,11,12			
25.	sch easy	11,12,13	9,11,12,13		
26.	compete				
27.	sports				
28.	imagine				
29.	fun clubs				
30.	educ clubs				
31.	serve club				
32.	no club	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	11,12,13
33.	peers				
34.	adults				
35.	strangers				
36.	card games				
37.	outdr game				
38.	Bingo				
39.	chess				
40.	invent				
41.	wind shop				
42.	city life	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13		
43.	count life				
44.	hermit	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13

Items Chosen by 25% or Fewer

Recorded by Age, Sex, and Geographic Area

Item		Suburban		Inner City	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
45.	hometown				
46.	office wk	9,10,11,12,13	10,11,12		
47.	service wk				
48.	store wk	12	9,10,11,12,13		
49.	armed ser	9,10,11,12,13		9,10,11,12	
50.	entertain				
51.	factory wk	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,12,13	10,11,12,13	
52.	scientist	10,11,12,13		10,11,13	
53.	outdr wk			13	
54.	much TV				
55.	comedies				
56.	romances		10,11,12		
57.	crime				
58.	musicals	13	9,10,11,12		12,13
59.	sci fict				
60.	cartoons				
61.	westerns				
62.	animals				
63.	medical				
64.	educ TV				
65.	play music				
66.	class mus	10,11,12,13	9,10,11,12,13		12

Items Chosen by 25% or Fewer

Recorded by Age, Sex, and Geographic Area

Item		Suburban		Inner City	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
67.	pop music				
68.	budget				
69.	looks				
70.	drugs				
71.	sex		9		
72.	liquor	13		9	
73.	tobacco	11,12		9,10,11,12	
74.	gov't				
75.	notables				
76.	woods				
77.	travel				
78.	quit sch	9,10,11,12			
79.	prob solv				
80.	vocation				
81.	teaching				
82.	college				
83.	inventory				

Significant Differences* Between Geographic Areas by Sex and Age

Item		Rural -- Urban		Rural - Suburban		Urban - Suburban	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
1.	sch intst						12
2.	arith						12,13
3.	history				9		
4.	foreign				10		
5.	world				10		
6.	cars						
7.	pets						13
8.	health	11				13	
9.	climate		10		10		
10.	space		10				
11.	athletics						
12.	myself				12		12
13.	plan work					9	
14.	listening						
15.	art		10		10		
16.	singing	11,12	10,11			11,12	
17.	acting		10		10		
18.	writing						
19.	reading			9	11		
20.	true story		10				
21.	talking						
22.	hand work						

* Chi Square, 2-tail test

Significant Differences* Between Geographic Areas by Sex and Age

Item		Rural -- Urban		Rural - Suburban		Urban - Suburban	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
23.	lazy	9					
24.	sch hard	10				10	11
25.	sch easy		11		11	11	11
26.	compete				12		
27.	sports	10		12		12	
28.	imagine			12			
29.	fun clubs						
30.	educ clubs						
31.	serve club						12
32.	no club					9	
33.	peers						
34.	adults	9,10					
35.	strangers			13			
36.	card games			13		13	
37.	outdr game						
38.	Bingo						11,12
39.	chess						
40.	invent						
41.	wind shop	10,12				13	
42.	city life	9,10,11 12	9,10,11 12,13			9,10,11 12	9,10,11 12,13

* Chi Square, 2-tail test

Significant Differences* Between Geographic Areas by Sex and Age

Item		Rural -- Urban		Rural - Suburban		Urban - Suburban	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
43.	count life	9,10,11	11			11	12
44.	hermit	11	12				
45.	hometown	9,11,12 13	10,11,12 13	11		9,13	11,12,13
46.	office wk	11	9,10,13				10
47.	service wk			12		11	
48.	store wk	10				10	
49.	armed ser						
50.	entertain	9,10,11 13	9,10,11 12,13	11		12,13	
51.	factory wk	10,11				11	
52.	scientist	11	10,11			9	
53.	outdr wk	10	12			13	
54.	much TV					10	
55.	comedies						
56.	romances		10,11				12
57.	crime	11				10	
58.	musicals						
59.	sci fict	10	9,10			10	
60.	cartoons						
61.	westerns	10,11		12			
62.	animals	10	9,11		13		

* Chi Square, 2-tail test

Significant Differences* Between Geographic Areas by Sex and Age

Item		Rural -- Urban		Rural - Suburban		Urban - Suburban	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
63.	medical		10,11		10		
64.	educ TV		10,11	9	10		
65.	play music	11	10,11				11
66.	class mus	11	11			11	
67.	pop music						
68.	budget						
69.	looks		10				
70.	drugs	9					
71.	sex		9,10,11		10,11		
72.	liquor	12				9	
73.	tobacco	9,10				9	
74.	gov't						13
75.	notables		10	12		12	12
76.	woods	12					
77.	travel						
78.	quit sch						9
79.	prob solv	11	10,11				12
80.	vocation		11				
81.	teaching	9	10,11		10		
82.	college	11,12	10,11,12 13				
83.	inventory		9,10,12				

* Chi Square, 2-tail test

Significant Differences* Between Geographic Areas by Sex and Age

Item		Inner City - Urban		Inner City - Others**	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
1.	sch intst	11,12		11,12	10
2.	arith	9		10	
3.	history				
4.	foreign		9		9
5.	world				
6.	cars	10,11		10,11	
7.	pets	10,11		9,10,11,12	
8.	health	10		13	11
9.	climate	10	11	10,12,13	10,11
10.	space			10,13	
11.	athletics	10,11		9,10,11	
12.	myself			11	
13.	plan work		11		11
14.	listening				
15.	art				
16.	singing	10	9,10,11,12	12	9,10,11,12,13
17.	acting				
18.	writing				
19.	reading	11	10	11	
20.	true story				9
21.	talking	12		11,12,13	
22.	hand work				

* Chi Square, 2-tail test

** Rural and Suburban

Significant Differences* Between Geographic Areas by Sex and Age

Item		Inner City - Urban		Inner City - Others**	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
23.	lazy	10	9,10	9,10	9,10,12
24.	sch hard	10	10,13	9,10	10,13
25.	sch easy	10,11		11,12	11
26.	compete	11	11	11	
27.	sports	11	11	10,11,12	
28.	imagine				11
29.	fun clubs			12	11
30.	educ clubs				
31.	serve club		12		12
32.	no club	10,11		9,10,11	9,10
33.	peers	11	11	11	11
34.	adults	10			
35.	strangers				
36.	card games			9	
37.	outdr game				
38.	Bingo	10	11	10	10,11
39.	chess				
40.	invent				
41.	wind shop	11	12	10,11,12,13	12
42.	city life	10,11,12	9,10,11,12	10,11,12	9,10,11,12,13
43.	count life	11,12		10,11,12	11
44.	hermit	9,12		9,11,12	

* Chi Square, 2-tail test

** Rural and Suburban

Significant Differences* Between Geographic Areas by Sex and Age

Item		Inner City - Urban		Inner City - Others**	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
45.	hometown		12,13	9,10,11,13	10,11,12,13
46.	office wk	9,10,11,12	10,11,12	9,11,12	9,10,11,12,13
47.	service wk				
48.	store wk	9,10,11,12	9,10,11,12,13	9,10,11	9,10,11,13
49.	armed ser		9		9
50.	entertain	10,11	9,11	9,10,11	9,10,11,12,13
51.	factory wk	9,10,11,12	9,10,11	9,10,11,12	9,10,11,13
52.	scientist	10,11		9,11,12	10
53.	outdr wk	10,12		11,13	11,12
54.	much TV	10		10	
55.	comedies				
56.	romances	11	9,10,11	11	9,10,11,12
57.	crime				11
58.	musicals	9	9,11	9	9,10,11
59.	sci fict				
60.	cartoons	10		10,11,13	
61.	westerns				
62.	animals	9,10,11,12		9,10,11,12	
63.	medical				
64.	educ TV	9,10	11,13	9,12	10,11,13
65.	play music		9		9,10,11,13
66.	class mus		10	11	9,10,11,13

* Chi Square, 2-tail test

** Rural and Suburban

Significant Differences* Between Geographic Areas by Sex and Age

Item		Inner City - Urban		Inner City - Others**	
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
67.	pop music				
68.	budget	11		10	
69.	looks	11		11	
70.	drugs	9,11	11	9	
71.	sex	11			
72.	liquor		11	9	
73.	tobacco	12	10	9	
74.	gov't	10,11		11	
75.	notables		11		10,11,13
76.	woods	10,11		10,11,12	11
77.	travel	9		9	
78.	quit sch	11		11	
79.	prob solv			12	
80.	vocation			9	
81.	teaching				11
82.	college				10
83.	inventory				

* Chi Square, 2-tail test

** Rural and Suburban

Number of Significant Differences*

	Rural - Urban		Rural - Suburban		Urban - Suburban	
Age	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
9	9	7	2	1	7	2
10	14	23	0	9	6	2
11	16	17	2	3	6	6
12	7	7	5	2	5	12
13	2	4	2	1	6	5

	Inner City - Urban		Inner City - Others	
Age	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
9	10	11	21	14
10	25	11	23	20
11	26	17	31	26
12	12	7	19	10
13	0	4	8	12

*Chi Square, 2-tail test

ITEMS RECEIVING MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENT CHOICE
WHICH WERE ALSO SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT***
BY AGE, SEX, AND GEOGRAPHIC GROUP

Rural - Urban Girls 9 yrs.

Item	High	Low
23		Rural
42		Rural
43	Rural	
45	Rural	
73		Urban

Rural - Urban Boys 9 yrs.

Item	High	Low
42		Rural
46		Rural
50		Rural
59	Urban	

Rural - Urban Girls 10 yrs.

Item	High	Low
24		Rural
41	Urban	
42		Rural
43	Rural Urban	
48		Rural Urban
51		Rural Urban

Rural - Urban Boys 10 yrs.

Item	High	Low
15	Urban	
20	Rural Urban	
42		Rural
45	Rural	
56		Rural Urban
59	Urban	
82	Urban	
83		Rural Urban

* Items chosen by 75% or more.
** Items chosen by 25% or fewer.
*** Chi Square, 2-tail test.

ITEMS RECEIVING MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENT CHOICE
WHICH WERE ALSO SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT***
BY AGE, SEX, AND GEOGRAPHIC GROUP

Rural - Urban Girls 11 yrs.

Item	High	Low
42	Rural	
43	Rural	
45	Rural	
46		Rural
51		Rural Urban
52		Rural Urban
66		Rural
82	Rural	

Rural - Urban Boys 11 yrs.

Item	High	Low
16	Rural	
25		Rural
42		Rural
43	Rural Urban	
45		Rural
50		Rural
56		Rural
66		Rural Urban
80	Rural Urban	
82	Urban	

Rural - Urban Girls 12 yrs.

Item	High	Low
41	Rural Urban	
42		Rural
45	Rural	
76	Rural Urban	

Rural - Urban Boys 12 yrs.

Item	High	Low
42		Rural Urban
44		Rural Urban
45	Rural	
50		Rural
82	Urban	

Rural - Urban Girls 13 yrs.

Item	High	Low
45	Rural	

Rural - Urban Boys 13 yrs.

Item	High	Low
42		Rural
45	Rural	
50		Rural

* Items chosen by 75% or more.
** Items chosen by 25% or fewer.
*** Chi Square, 2-tail test.

ITEMS RECEIVING MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENT CHOICE
WHICH WERE ALSO SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT***
BY AGE, SEX, AND GEOGRAPHIC GROUP

Rural - Suburban Girls 9 yrs.

None

Rural - Suburban Boys 9 yrs.

None

Rural - Suburban Girls 10 yrs.

None

Rural - Suburban Boys 10 yrs.

Item	High	Low
4	Suburban	
15	Suburban	

Rural - Suburban Girls 11 yrs.

Item	High	Low
45	Rural Suburban	

Rural - Suburban Boys 11 yrs.

Item	High	Low
25		Rural Suburban
71	Suburban	

Rural - Suburban Girls 12 yrs.

Item	High	Low
28	Rural	

Rural - Suburban Boys 12 yrs.

Item	High	Low
26	Rural Suburban	

Rural - Suburban Girls 13 yrs.

Item	High	Low
36	Rural	

Rural - Suburban Boys 13 yrs.

None

Urban - Suburban Girls 9 yrs.

Item	High	Low
13	Suburban	
32		Urban Suburban
42		Urban Suburban
45	Suburban	

Urban - Suburban Girls 9 yrs.

Item	High	Low
42		Suburban

* Items chosen by 75% or more.
** Items chosen by 25% or fewer.
*** Chi Square, 2-tail test.

ITEMS RECEIVING MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENT CHOICE
WHICH WERE ALSO SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT***
BY AGE, SEX, AND GEOGRAPHIC GROUP

Urban - Suburban Girls 10 yrs.

Item	High	Low
24		Suburban
42		Suburban

Urban - Suburban Boys 10 yrs.

Item	High	Low
42		Suburban
46		Suburban

Urban - Suburban Girls 11 yrs.

Item	High	Low
25		Urban
42		Suburban
51		Urban Suburban
66		Suburban

Urban - Suburban Boys 11 yrs.

Item	High	Low
25		Suburban
42		Suburban
45	Suburban	

Urban - Suburban Girls 12 yrs.

Item	High	Low
27	Suburban	
42		Suburban

Urban - Suburban Boys 12 yrs.

Item	High	Low
42		Urban Suburban
45	Suburban	
56		Suburban
82	Urban	

Urban - Suburban Girls 13 yrs.

Item	High	Low
36	Urban	
41	Suburban	
45	Suburban	

Urban - Suburban Boys 13 yrs.

Item	High	Low
7	Urban Suburban	
42		Suburban
45	Suburban	

* Items chosen by 75% or more.
** Items chosen by 25% or fewer.
*** Chi Square, 2- tail test.

ITEMS RECEIVING MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENT CHOICE
WHICH WERE ALSO SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT***
BY AGE, SEX, AND GEOGRAPHIC GROUP

Inner City - Urban Girls 9 yrs.

Item	High	Low
44		Inner City Urban
51		Urban
77	Urban	

Inner City - Urban Boys 9 yrs.

Item	High	Low
4	Inner City Urban	
51		Urban
65	Inner City	

Inner City - Urban Girls 10 yrs.

Item	High	Low
6		Urban
7	Inner City Urban	
11	Urban	
23		Urban
32		Inner City Urban
38	Inner City Urban	
51		Inner City Urban
52		Inner City Urban
54	Inner City	
60	Inner City	
76	Urban	

Inner City - Urban Boys 10 yrs.

Item	High	Low
46		Urban
48		Urban
51		Urban
66		Urban

* Items chosen by 75% or more.
** Items chosen by 25% or fewer.
*** Chi Square, 2-tail test.

ITEMS RECEIVING MOST* AND LEAST** FREQUENT CHOICE
WHICH WERE ALSO SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT***
BY AGE, SEX, AND GEOGRAPHIC GROUP

Inner City - Urban Girls 11 yrs.

Item	High	Low
6		Urban
11	Inner City Urban	
25		Urban
32		Inner City Urban
33	Inner City Urban	
41	Urban	
51		Inner City Urban
68	Urban	
69	Urban	
76	Inner City Urban	
78		Urban

Inner City - Urban Boys 11 yrs.

Item	High	Low
26	Inner City Urban	
27	Inner City Urban	
33	Inner City Urban	
38	Inner City	
48		Urban
58		Urban

Inner City - Urban Girls 12 yrs.

Item	High	Low
44		Inner City Urban
51		Inner City Urban
52		Urban
73		Inner City Urban

Inner City - Urban Boys 12 yrs.

Item	High	Low
31	Inner City	
48		Urban

Inner City - Urban Girls 13 yrs.

None

Inner City - Urban Boys 13 yrs.

None

* Items chosen by 75% or more.
** Items chosen by 25% or fewer.
*** Chi Square, 2-tail test.

Instructions for Administering Pre-Adolescent Interest Inventory

1. Explain to pupils as briefly as possible that the purpose of the inventory is to discover what kinds of activities are interesting to them.

2. Pass out answer sheets and pencils.

3. Have child record name of school only in space provided on answer sheet. Do not supply any other information at the top of the answer sheet.

4. Explain that you will read a numbered statement. The pupil is to blacken the first space for that number if the statement is true about him, blacken the second space if the statement is not true about him, the third space if he is not sure how he feels about the statement.

5. Point out clearly that the numbered items are arranged from left to right (not vertically) on the answer sheet.

   1 2 3 4 5
   6 7 8 9 10

6. Read each statement clearly. Move as rapidly from statement to statement as the pupils find comfortable. Don't let the test drag - remind indecisive pupils they can blacken the 3rd space.

7. Collect answer sheets and pencils.

8. Thank pupils and teacher and principal.

9. Return answer sheets, questionnaire and pencils promptly to Educational Studies Institute, Grand Valley State College.

GRAND VALLEY STATE COLLEGE

EDUCATIONAL STUDIES INSTITUTE

Pre-Adolescent
Interest Inventory
Greta DeLong

sch intst	1.	Most of the subjects I study in school are very interesting to me this year.
arith	2.	I like to work with numbers.
history	3.	I like to learn about the past.
foreign	4.	I like to learn about people living in other countries.
world	5.	I like to learn about problems in the world today.
cars	6.	I like to learn about cars or any kind of machinery.
pets	7.	I like pets and learning how animals live.
health	8.	I like to learn how our bodies get sick or stay healthy.
climate	9.	I like to learn about the weather and climate.
space	10.	I like to learn about outer space and the work of astronauts.
athletics	11.	I like to learn how to be a better player in athletic games and sports.
myself	12.	I like to learn about myself.
plan work	13.	I like to help plan lessons and the things to do in school.
listening	14.	I like to listen to teachers and other adults who tell me things I don't know.
art	15.	I wish I had more chances to do art work.
singing	16.	I wish I had more chances to learn how to sing.
acting	17.	I like to act things out.
writing	18.	Sometimes I like to write stories, even if no one reads them.
reading	19.	I like to read when I am not in school.
true story	20.	I like true stories.

talking	21.	I like to tell other people about things in which I am interested.
hand work	22.	I like to do things with my hands.
lazy	23.	I like to just do nothing (be lazy) whenever I can.
sch hard	24.	I think school is usually too hard.
sch easy	25.	I think school is usually too easy.
compete	26.	I like to compete against other kids my age.
sports	27.	I like to watch sport teams play against each other.
imagine	28.	I like to think about things that couldn't possible be true.
fun clubs	29.	I like to belong to clubs or gangs whose purpose is just to have fun.
educ clubs	30.	I like to belong to clubs or gangs whose purpose is to help me learn something.
serve club	31.	I like to belong to clubs whose purpose is to do good deeds.
no club	32.	I do not want to belong to a club.
peers	33.	I like to do things with other people who are about my age.
adults	34.	I like to do things with adults (grown-ups).
strangers	35.	I like to be with people who are different from me.
card games	36.	I like to play card games.
outdr game	37.	I like to play outdoor games.
Bingo	38.	I like to play games of chance like Bingo.
chess	39.	I like to play games like checkers or chess.
invent	40.	I like to invent games and things to do.
wind shop	41.	I like to go around looking in stores even when I don't buy anything.
city life	42.	I would like to live in a very big city like New York or Detroit or Chicago.
count life	43.	I would like to live out in the country.

hermit	44.	I think I would like to be a hermit - live alone far from other people.
hometown	45.	I think my town is a good place to live.
office wk	46.	When I grow up, I think I would like to work in a business office.
service wk	47.	When I grow up, I think I would like a job helping people in trouble.
store wk	48.	When I grow up, I think I would like to work in a store.
armed ser	49.	When I grow up, I think I would like to be in the armed services.
entertain	50.	I think I would like to be a professional entertainer (singer, dancer, comedian, etc.).
factory wk	51.	I think I would like to work in a factory.
scientist	52.	I think I would like to make my living as a scientist or researcher.
outdr wk	53.	I think I would like to make my living working on a job that kept me outdoors.
much TV	54.	I like to watch T.V. as much as I can.
comedies	55.	I like movies and T.V. shows that are funny.
romances	56.	I like movies and T.V. shows that are love stories.
crime	57.	I like movies and T.V. shows that are about crimes and catching criminals.
musicals	58.	I like movies and T.V. shows that are musicals.
sci fict	59.	I like movies and T.V. shows that are weird - like science fiction.
cartoons	60.	I like cartoons on T.V.
westerns	61.	I like movies and T.V. shows that are westerns.
animals	62.	I like movies and T.V. shows that are about animals.
medical	63.	I like movies and T.V. shows about doctors and sick people.
educ TV	64.	I like movies and T.V. shows that are educational.
play music	65.	I would like to learn to play a musical instrument.

class mus	66.	I like classical (serious) music.
pop music	67.	I like to listen to popular music (any currently popular type).
budget	68.	I would like to learn how to spend money wisely.
looks	69.	I would like to learn how to improve the way I look.
drugs	70.	I wish adults would help me learn more about drugs.
sex	71.	I wish adults would help me learn more about sex.
liquor	72.	I wish adults would help me learn more about liquor.
tobacco	73.	I wish adults would help me learn about tobacco.
gov't	74.	I would like to know more about the government.
notables	75.	I would like to study more about famous people.
woods	76.	I would like to spend lots of time in the woods hunting, fishing or camping.
travel	77.	I would like to do lots of traveling.
quit sch	78.	I would like to quit school as soon as I can.
prob solv	79.	I like to work on problems that no one has ever solved.
vocation	80.	I would like to know what kind of jobs I could do when I am a grown up.
teaching	81.	I like to help people learn things that are hard for them to understand.
college	82.	I think I would like to go to college someday.
inventory	83.	I like to answer questions like these.
	84.	I am a boy.
	85.	I am a girl.
	86.	I am 9 years old.
	87.	I am 10 years old.
	88.	I am 11 years old.
	89.	I am 12 years old.
	90.	I am 13 years old.

Schools Participating in Pre-Adolescent Interest Inventory

Grand Rapids
Burton
Campau Park
Kent Hills
Ken-O-Sha
Mulick Park
Oakleigh
Straight
Vanderberg
Henry
Westwood Hills
Aberdeen
Alger
Beckwith
Brookside
Burr Oak
Covell
Congress
Crestview
Frost
Hall
Jefferson
Huff
Shawmut Hills
Sheldon
West Leonard
Special Education

Grandville
East
Cummings
Delaney
Emmons
Riverbend

Jenison
Pinewood

Rockford
Valley View
Belmont
Crestwood

Kenowa Hills
Fairview
Walker Station
Marne
Walker Jr. HS
Alpine

Spring Lake
Holmes
Jeffers

Caledonia
Dutton
Central
Kettle Lake

Allendale

Ada

Coopersville
Lamont
Conklin

Forest Hills
Collins
Cascade

Orchard View
Gustafson

Owosso Central

Holt Jr. HS

Leslie

Fruitport
Beach Elementary # 1,2,3
Beach 3rd Ave. Bldg.
Edgewood
Shettler
Middle

Trinidad - Tobago

Holy Name Convent
St. Mary's College
Tranquility
San Juan Gov't. School
St.James
Queens Royal College
St. Joseph's Convent
E.V.G.S.
All Saints Angelican
New Town Boys
Nelson Street Royal Catholic (boys)
St. Philip's Gov't. School
St. Ursula's Girls's School
Laventille Boys Gov't. School
Laventille Girls Gov't. School
Eastern Girls Gov't.
Success Roman Catholic
Nelson St. Girl's. Roman Catholic
Rosary Boys
New Town Girl's Roman Catholic
St. Rose's Girls
Piccadilly Gov't.

Alaska

Ketchikan
    White Chiff
    Houghlin
    Main
Fairbanks
    University Park
    Hunter
    Denali
    Nordale
    Barnette
    Joy